

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/684,057

Examiner

Richard Franklin

Applicant(s)

RAPP ET AL.

Art Unit

2181

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 15 November 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-4,6,8,9,11-24,26-29,32-36,38 and 40.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 11/15/07
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

  
ALFORD KINDRED  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Paul Rusyn (Reg. No. 42,118) on 17 December 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

**Amend claim 8 to read:** "The programmable logic integrated circuit of claim 6 wherein the memory comprises an electrically erasable and programmable read-only memory."

**Amend claim 9 to read:** "The programmable logic integrated circuit of claim 6 wherein the circuit comprises a field-programmable gate array."

**Amend claim 11 to read:** "A programmable-circuit unit, comprising:

A pipeline bus operable to communicate data through an industry standard bus protocol;

a memory operable to store a plurality of versions of firmware data, each version respectively representing a corresponding configuration of the programmable- circuit unit; and

a programmable logic integrated circuit coupled to the memory and operable to function as an end point on the pipeline bus, the programmable logic integrated circuit including an interface to the pipeline bus and being operable to,

download a first selected one of the versions of firmware data from the memory  
operate in the configuration corresponding to the first selected version of  
firmware data,

download a second selected one of the versions of firmware data from the  
memory, and

operate in the configuration corresponding to the second selected version of  
firmware data;

wherein the programmable logic integrated circuit is further operable to:  
receive the second selected version of firmware data from an external source via  
the pipeline bus and the interface to the pipeline bus while operating in the first  
configuration; and

store the second selected version of firmware data in the memory while operating  
in the first configuration, and wherein the second selected firmware version of firmware  
may only be received and stored when operating in the configuration corresponding to  
the first selected version of firmware data.”

**Amend claim 13 at line 6 to read:** “including an interface to an industry  
standard bus, the first programmable logic integrated circuit”

**Insert in claim 16 between lines 14 and 15:** "an interface coupled to the industry standard bus;"

**Insert in claim 20 between lines 18 and 19:** "an interface coupled to the industry standard bus;"

**Insert in claim 24 between lines 28 and 29:** "an interface coupled to the industry standard bus;"

**Amend claim 40 to read:** "The programmable-circuit unit of claim 11 further comprising a router coupled to the pipeline bus."

**DETAILED ACTION**

2. Claims 2 – 4, 6, 8 – 9, 11 – 24, 26 – 29, 32 – 36, 38, and 40 are pending.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 2 – 4, 6, 8 – 9, 11 – 24, 26 – 29, 32 – 36, 38, and 40 are allowed.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 2 – 4, 6, 8 – 9, 11 – 24, 26 – 29, 32 – 36, 38, and 40 are allowed because applicant has amended the claims to include subject matter indicated as allowable in the previous office action (See Non-Final Office Action mailed 07 August 2007).

Applicant has amended independent claims 2, 6, 11, 13, 16, 20, 24, 32, and 36 to include the allowable subject matter.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

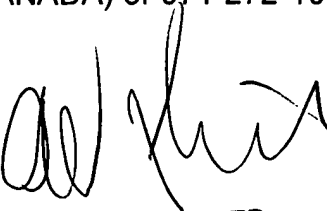
**Conclusion**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Richard Franklin whose telephone number is (571) 272-0669. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alford Kindred can be reached on (571) 272-4037. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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